

Acquisitions abroad by Pharma Companies

2447. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:
SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of acquisitions abroad by Pharma Companies and details thereof;
- (b) whether Government are aware that acquisitions abroad are source of siphoning money out of India; and
- (c) if so, what steps are being taken to control such acquisitions?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Acquisitions abroad by Pharma Companies and details thereof are not covered under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) and (c) Acquisitions abroad and siphoning money out of India are checked and controlled by the FEMA and the RBI regulations.

Setting up a Bench of Supreme Court In South

2448. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up a Bench of the Supreme Court in South;
- (b) if so, whether it is also under consideration to set up the Bench at Hyderabad which is located centrally in the South; and
- (c) if so, when necessary decision for setting up the Supreme Court Bench at Hyderabad is expected?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) While conveying that the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for setting up of a Bench of the Supreme Court *inter-alia* in South was pending consideration of the Full Court, the Chief Justice of India had stated that he would revert to it as soon as a decision was taken by the said Court. Since the decision of the Full Court is awaited, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the final decision would be taken in this matter.

Vacant Posts in Various Courts

2449. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Wilt the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of posts are lying vacant in various courts;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to fill up those vacancies; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Appointment of District Judges and other judges of the subordinate courts is made by the Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising jurisdiction in relation to such State under the provisions of articles 233-234 of the Constitution of India.

As per the available information, 1500 posts of judges/Magistrates were vacant as on 31.12.1998/1.6.2000 in District/Subordinate Courts all over the country. State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below). The Central Government have been